

The widening of El Camino Real and Ralston Avenue produce the greatest level of service benefit under existing conditions. However because there is such a large unmet latent traffic demand within the system, such a widening would probably encourage increases in overall traffic within the circulation system, and thus result in no significant improvement in traffic level of service.

The grade separation of the east-west through movements along Ralston Avenue from the Southern Pacific railroad will substantially improve the travel for vehicles moving through the downtown on Ralston Avenue; however, the performance of the El Camino Real and Ralston Avenue intersection would not be substantially improved. This is because most of the existing traffic would not be diverted to the new undercrossing facility. Rather, all existing and most of the future traffic growth within the downtown would still use the El Camino Real/Ralston Avenue intersection.

6.3 CIRCULATION AND TRANSPORTATION GOALS AND POLICY MAP

This section details the goals and policies related to the overall downtown circulation system. The General Plan Circulation Plan should be referenced for all of the policies that relate to the City of Belmont. Several of the existing General Plan policies have been incorporated into this Specific Plan relative to circulation issues.

6.3.1 Overall Circulation and Transportation Goals and Objectives:

This section provides a summary of the circulation and transportation system goals and objectives for the downtown area. Each basic objective is supported by specific policies which are detailed in subsequent sections of this chapter.

GOAL:

TO MAXIMIZE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE EXISTING CIRCULATION SYSTEM WITHIN THE DOWNTOWN CORE.

OBJECTIVES:

1. **Circulation and Street Classification Objective: Establish a ranking of street types capable of serving varying levels of existing and future land use in a functional and safe manner.**

In keeping with policy of the existing General Plan, no new major thoroughfares are planned to serve the growth and development anticipated by the Downtown Plan. Modifications to the existing system will be primarily to maintain and improve existing